

UW-Madison Spring 2024 ACHA–NCHA Alcohol and Drug Data

Recovery from Alcohol and Other Drugs

Students in Recovery: Do you identify as a person in recovery from alcohol or other drug use?

	Identifies as a person in recovery from alcohol and other drugs
Undergraduate	1%
Female	1%
Male	1%
BIPOC, domestic students	1%
White, domestic students	2%
International	0%
Fraternity and Sorority Membership	3%
Graduate	2%
Female	2%
Male	3%
BIPOC, domestic students	3%
White, domestic students	3%
International	2%

Alcohol Use

Active Alcohol Use: When, if ever, was the last time you drank alcohol?

	Within the last 2 weeks*	Never
Undergraduate	57%	18%
Female	62%	15%
Male	50%	22%
BIPOC, domestic students	41%	29%
White, domestic students	67%	12%
International	38%	30%
Fraternity and Sorority Membership	85%	7%
Graduate	56%	13%
Female	60%	9%
Male	52%	17%
BIPOC, domestic students	59%	8%
White, domestic students	63%	7%
International	42%	26%

**Data on additional time points available upon request*

Drinker Types:

- **Low-Risk Drinker:** Survey participants who have not had 4 (females) or 5 (males) or more drinks in one sitting in the past 2 weeks. This category includes students who have not drunk in the past 2 weeks.
- **High-Risk Drinking Rate:** Respondents who reported drinking 4 (females) or 5 (males) or more drinks in one sitting at least one time in the past 2 weeks. Cells with <10 respondents are not reported

	Non-drinkers and Low-Risk Drinkers	High-Risk Drinkers
Undergraduate	63%	37%
Female	59%	41%
Male	65%	35%
Non-binary/gender diverse	86%	14%
BIPOC, domestic students	77%	23%
White, domestic students	55%	45%
International	76%	24%
Fraternity and Sorority Membership	36%	74%
Graduate	83%	17%
Female	84%	16%
Male	81%	19%
Non-binary/gender diverse	88%	12%
BIPOC, domestic students	84%	16%
White, domestic students	79%	21%
International	89%	11%

Negative consequences among students who reported drinking alcohol in the past 12 months: Within the last 12 months, have you experienced any of the following when drinking alcohol?

Rows are organized in declining order by prevalence amongst undergraduate students.

	Undergraduate	Graduate
Brownout (forgot where I was or what I did for short periods of time, but can remember once someone reminds me)	32%	18%
Did something I later regretted	25%	13%
Blackout (forgot where I was or what I did for a large period of time and cannot remember, even when someone reminds me)	18%	7%
Had unprotected sex	12%	7%

Academic consequences among students who drank in the past 12 months: Within the last 12 months, to what extent did your alcohol use affect your academic performance?

Students were asked to select the most serious outcome below.

My alcohol use...	Undergraduate	Graduate
Delayed progress towards my degree	< 1%	< 1%
Negatively impacted my performance in a class	4%	2%
Did not affect my academics	96%	98%

Intention amongst drinkers who drank in the last 3 months: The last time drank:

	Undergraduate	Graduate
Did you get drunk?	51%	21%
Did you intend to get drunk?	53%	20%

Drug Use

Percent of UW-Madison students who reported using the following substances at least once in the past 3 months non-medically

Rows ordered in descending order of use amongst undergraduate students.

	Undergraduate	Graduate
Cannabis (marijuana, weed, hash, edibles, vaped cannabis, etc.) non medically	38%	25%
Tobacco or nicotine delivery products (cigarettes, e-cigarettes, Juul or other vape products, water pipe or hookah, chewing tobacco, cigars, etc.)	28%	11%
Hallucinogens (Ecstasy, MDMA, Molly, LSD, acid, mushrooms, PCP, Special K, etc.)	4%	3%
Prescription stimulants (Ritalin, Concerta, Dexedrine, Adderall, diet pills, etc.) non medically	2%	1%
Cocaine (coke, crack, etc.)	1%	< 1%
Inhalants (poppers, nitrous, glue, gas, paint thinner, etc.)	2%	1%

Sedatives or Sleeping Pills (Valium, Ativan, Xanax, Klonopin, Librium, Rohypnol, GHB, etc.)	1%	1%
Methamphetamine (speed, crystal meth, ice, etc.)	< 1%	< 1%

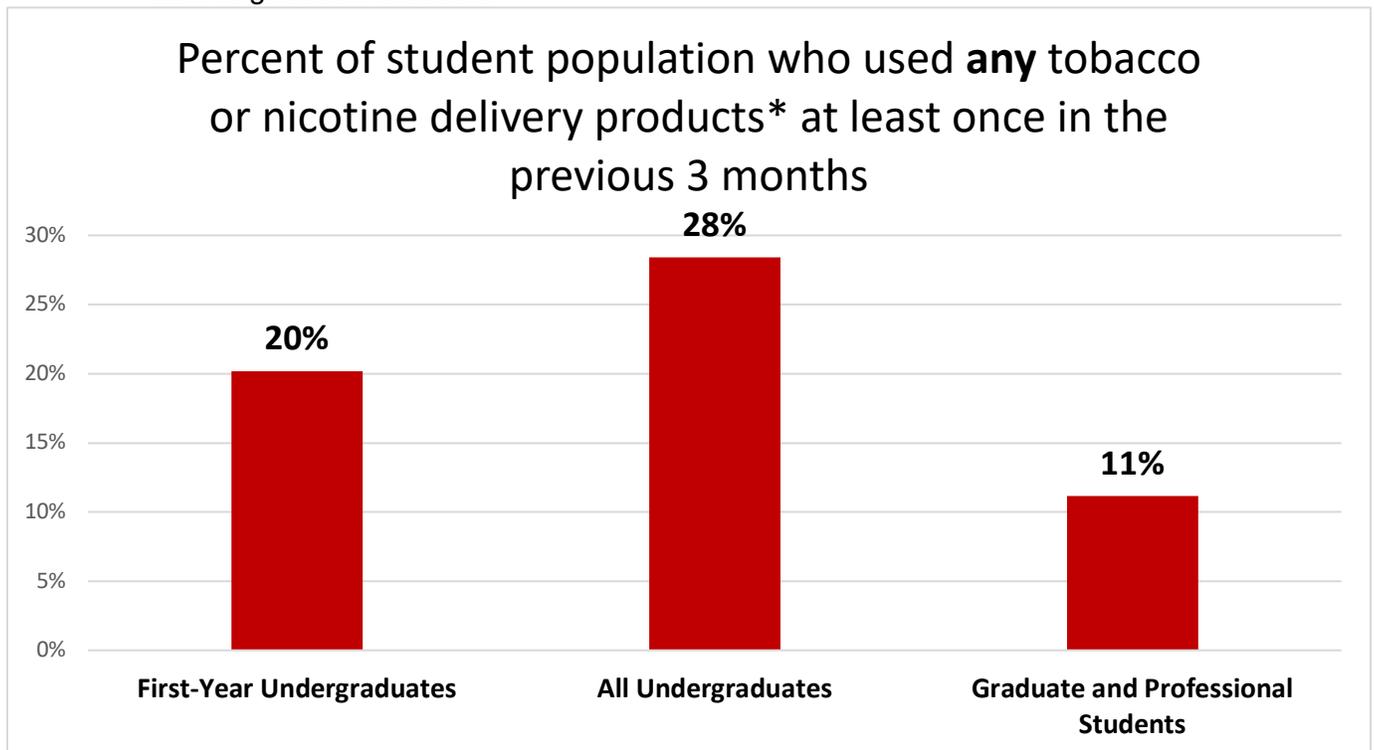
Tobacco and Nicotine-Delivery Use

Program in School

Key Findings:

Undergraduate students are more likely than graduate and professional students to have used tobacco or nicotine-delivery products in the previous 3 months.

- About 1 in 4 undergraduate students have used tobacco or nicotine-delivery products at least once compared to 1 in 9 graduate and professional students.
- 20% of first-year undergraduate students have used tobacco or nicotine-delivery products in the previous 3 months, compared to 28% of all undergraduate students, and 11% of graduate students.



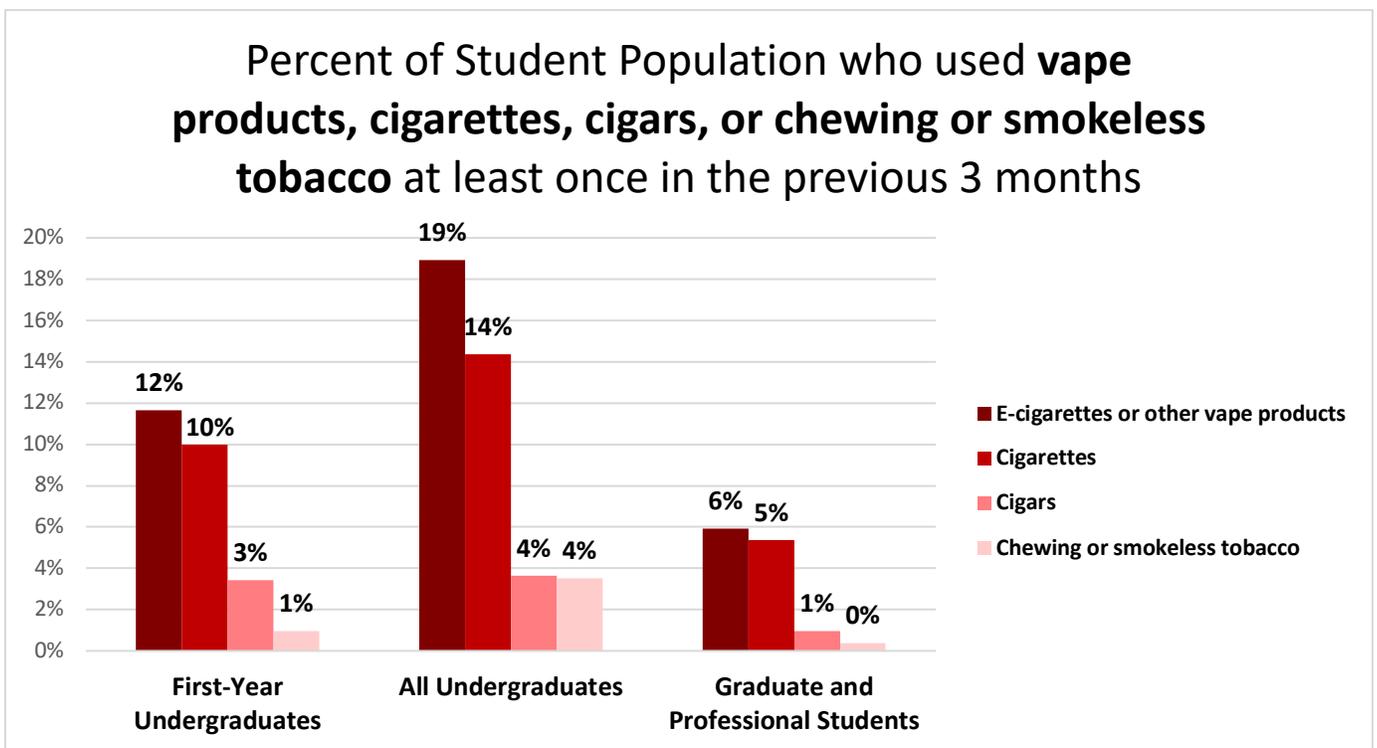
**Examples of tobacco or nicotine-delivery products include: cigarettes, e-cigarettes, Juul or other vape products, water pipe or hookah, chewing tobacco, cigars, etc.)*

Product Types

Key Findings:

Amongst undergraduate and graduate students, vape products and e-cigarettes are the most common tobacco or nicotine-delivery product used. However, the patterns differ.

- 19% of **undergraduates** reported using vape products or e-cigarettes at least once in the previous 3 months, compared to 14% of all undergraduates reporting smoking cigarettes.
 - First year undergraduate reported using vapes products or e-cigarettes at 12% and cigarettes at 10% in the past 3 months
- Amongst **graduate and professional students**, they report 3-month use of cigarettes at 5% and 3 month use of vape products at 6%.



Most undergraduate students who use cigarettes also use vape products. The converse is not true.

- About 64% of undergraduate students who smoked cigarettes in the previous 3 months also used vape products at least once.
- Just under half (49%) of undergraduate students who used vape products also smoked cigarettes in the previous 3 months.

LGBTQIA Status

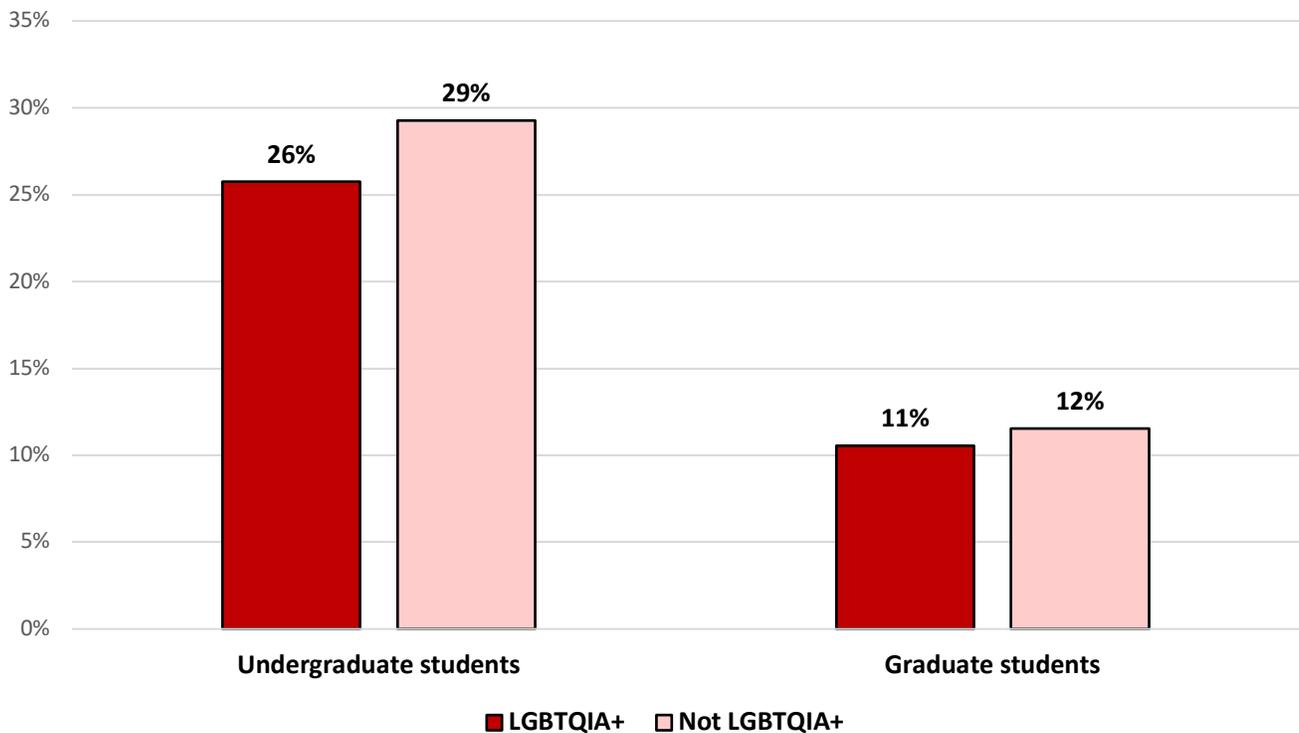
Key Findings:

We see differences in tobacco and/or nicotine-delivery product use by LGBTQIA status.

- Amongst undergraduate students, LGBTQIA+ students are **less** likely to have used tobacco and/or nicotine in the previous 3 months. Vape products are the most common type of tobacco and/or nicotine-delivery product used by both LGBTQIA+ and non-LGBTQIA+ undergraduates.
- Amongst graduate students, LGBTQIA+ students are **more** likely to have used tobacco or nicotine-delivery products in the previous 3 months.
- Vape products are the most common type of tobacco or nicotine-delivery product used amongst undergraduate students regardless of LGBTQIA+ status.

	LGBTQ+ nicotine use	Not LGBTQ+ nicotine use
Undergraduate students	26%	29%
Graduate students	11%	12%

Percent of student population who used **any** tobacco or nicotine delivery products* at least once in the previous 3 months by LGBTQIA+ Status



Technical Information

Definitions

- Tobacco and nicotine-delivery products were defined in NCHA as “cigarettes, e-cigarettes, Juul or other vape products, water pipe or hookah, chewing tobacco, cigars, etc.”
- Students were identified as LGBTQIA+ by reporting any of the following:
 - A sexuality other than heterosexual in the survey
 - A gender other than cisgender female, cisgender male, and/or their gender assigned at birth
- Any time we refer to “graduate students”, we are referring to graduate and professional students

Report Details

- Last updated in September 2025
- Analysts included John Shadle, Reonda Washington and Amanda Jovaag from the UHS Data & Quality Team